

16. (Amended) A connector assembly for interconnecting first conductors of a flat flexible circuit to a plurality of second conductors without the use of conductive terminals, comprising:

103 a male connector including a relatively rigid male body member having an edge about which the flexible circuit is wrapped with the first conductors of the circuit facing away from the body member at the edge thereof; and

a female connecting device including a receptacle for receiving the male connector inserted into the receptacle, and an opening in the device communicating the receptacle with the outside of the device and remaining open for removably positioning said second conductors from exteriorly of the device in engagement with the first conductors of the flexible circuit at the edge of the male body member.

Cancel allowable dependent claims 6, 7, 21 and 22 without prejudice and rewrite the same in independent form as new claims 25-28, as follows:

--25. A connector assembly for removably interconnecting first conductors of a flat flexible circuit to a plurality of second conductors without the use of conductive terminals, comprising:

a male connector including a relatively rigid male body member having an edge about which the flexible circuit is wrapped with the first conductors of the circuit facing away from the body member at the edge thereof;

103 a adapter including a first receptacle for receiving the male connector inserted edge-first into the first receptacle, and a second receptacle for receiving the second conductors in position for engaging the first conductors of the flexible circuit at the edge of the male body member; and

said male body member including a forward body part having said edge about which the flexible circuit is wrapped and a rearward body part latched to the adapter, and spring means between the forward and rearward body parts to bias the forward body part and, thereby, the first conductors of the flexible circuit against the second conductors.

26. A connector assembly for removably interconnecting first conductors of a flat flexible circuit to a plurality of second conductors without the use of conductive terminals, comprising:

a male connector including a relatively rigid male body member having an edge about which the flexible circuit is wrapped with the first conductors of the circuit facing away from the body member at the edge thereof;

an adapter including a first receptacle for receiving the male connector inserted edge-first into the first receptacle, and a second receptacle for receiving the second conductors in position for engaging the first conductors of the flexible circuit at the edge of the male body member; and

a printed circuit board inserted into the second receptacle of the adapter, the printed circuit board having said second conductors engageable with the first conductors of the flexible circuit.

27. A connector assembly for interconnecting first conductors of a flat flexible circuit to a plurality of second conductors without the use of conductive terminals, comprising:

a male connector including a relatively rigid male body member having an edge about which the flexible circuit is wrapped with the first conductors of the circuit facing away from the body member at the edge thereof;

a female connecting device including a receptacle for receiving the male connector inserted into the receptacle, and means on the device for positioning said second conductors in engagement with the first conductors of the flexible circuit at the edge of the male body member; and

said male body member including a forward body part having said edge about which the flexible circuit is wrapped and a rearward body part latched to the female connecting device, and spring means between the forward and rearward body parts to bias the forward body part and, thereby, the first conductors of the flexible circuit against the second conductors.

28. A connector assembly for interconnecting first conductors of a flat flexible circuit to a plurality of second conductors without the use of conductive terminals, comprising:

a male connector including a relatively rigid male body member having an edge about which the flexible circuit is wrapped with the first conductors of the circuit facing away from the body member at the edge thereof;

a female connecting device including a receptacle for receiving the male connector inserted into the receptacle, and means on the device for positioning said second conductors in engagement with the first conductors of the flexible circuit at the edge of the male body member; and